AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

- 1. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:
 - generating a list of update keys on a key distribution center system based on a table of secret keys identifying the valid and invalid receivers of a plurality of receivers, saidthe list of update keys allowing valid receivers to decrypt a valid content key using update keys obtained from the list of update keys;
 - generating a multiple nested list of decryption patterns based on the list of update keys;
 - encrypting each of the update keys using the corresponding secret key assigned to each of the valid receivers;
 - broadcasting saidthe multiple nested list of decryption patterns to the plurality of receivers; and
 - recovering a content key from the list of update keys by recovering a set of update keys for each receiver from the multiple nested list of decryption patterns and using the set of update keys to decrypt the content key, wherein the valid receivers receive the recovered content key to facilitate decryption of content, and each of the invalid receivers receives <u>an a distinct</u> intermediate key to facilitate blocking of the content.
- (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein saidthe generating of the list of update keys comprises generating one or more distinct intermediate keys and the content key.

3-4. (Cancelled)

- (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein saidthe generating of the multiple nested list of decryption patterns comprises encrypting an entry of the list of update keys using a key that is comprises a combination of a previous update key, a secret key for a receiver associated with the entry of the list of update keys, and an index indicating a location in saidthe table of secret keys associated with each entry.
- 6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 5, wherein an entry in saidthe multiple nested list of decryption patterns includes a predetermined test pattern encrypted with the secret key for the receiver associated with the entry of the list of update keys.
- 7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein saidthe recovering of the set of update keys for each receiver from the multiple nested list of decryption patterns comprises parsing saidthe multiple nested list of decryption patterns to locate an entry intended for a particular receiver based on detection of a predetermined test pattern included in an entry in the multiple nested list of decryption patterns.
- 8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising broadcasting said the content encrypted with said the content key.

9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 8, further comprising decrypting saidthe content encrypted with saidthe content key using a content key recovered from the multiple nested list of decryption patterns.

10-18. (Cancelled)

19. (Currently Amended) A system comprising:

a key distribution center to

valid and invalid receivers of a plurality of receivers, saidthe list of update keys allowing valid receivers of saidthe plurality of receivers to decrypt a valid content key using update keys obtained from the list of update keys, generate a multiple nested list of decryption patterns based on the list of update keys,

encrypt each of the update keys using the corresponding secret key assigned to each of the valid receivers, and

broadcast saidthe multiple nested list of decryption patterns to the plurality of receivers; and

a content receiver to recover an appropriate set of update keys from the multiple nested list of decryption patterns so that the final key recovered in the set of update keys is comprises a content key, wherein the valid receivers receive the recovered content key to facilitate decryption of content, and each of the invalid receivers receives a distinctan intermediate key to facilitate blocking of the content.

20. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 19, wherein saidthe key distribution center generates one or more distinct intermediate keys and the content key.

21-22. (Cancelled)

23. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 19, wherein saidthe key distribution

center encrypts an entry of the list of update keys using a key that is comprises a

combination of a previous update key, a secret keys for a receiver associated with

the entry of the list of update keys, and an index indicating a location in saidthe

table of secret keys associated with each entry to generate saidthe multiple nested

list of decryption patterns.

24. (Cancelled)

25. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 19, wherein saidthe receiver parses

saidthe multiple nested list of decryption patterns to locate an entry intended for a

particular receiver based on detection of a predetermined test pattern included in

an entry in the multiple nested list of decryption patterns.

26. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 19, further comprising a content

provider to broadcast saidthe content encrypted with saidthe content key.

27. (Cancelled)

28. (Currently Amended) A machine-readable medium having stored thereon data representing sets of instructions which, when executed by a machine, cause the machine to:

generate a list of update keys on a key distribution center system based on a table of secret keys identifying valid and invalid receivers of a plurality of receivers, saidthe list of update keys allowing valid receivers to decrypt a valid content key using update keys obtained from the list of update keys; generate a multiple nested list of decryption patterns based on the list of update keys;

encrypting each of the update keys using the corresponding secret key assigned to
each of the valid receivers;

broadcast saidthe multiple nested list of decryption patterns to the plurality of receivers; and

recover a content key from the list of update keys by recovering an appropriate set of update keys for each receiver from the multiple nested list of decryption patterns and using the set of update keys to decrypt the content key, wherein the valid receivers receive the recovered content key to facilitate decryption of content, and each of the invalid receivers receives a distinctan intermediate key to facilitate blocking of the content.

29. (Currently Amended) The machine-readable medium of claim 28, wherein saidthe generating of the list of update keys comprises generating one or more distinct intermediate keys and the content key.

30-31. (Cancelled)

32. (Currently Amended) The machine-readable medium of claim 28, wherein saidthe generating of the multiple nested list of decryption patterns comprises encrypting an entry of the list of update keys using a key that is-comprises a combination of a previous update key, a secret key for a receiver associated with the entry of the list of update keys, and an index indicating a location in saidthe table of secret keys associated with each entry.

33. (Currently Amended) The machine-readable medium of claim 32, wherein an entry in saidthe multiple nested list of decryption patterns includes a predetermined test pattern encrypted with the secret key for the receiver associated with the entry of the list of update keys.

34. (Cancelled)

35. (Currently Amended) The machine-readable medium of claim 28, further comprising broadcasting saidthe content encrypted with saidthe content key.

36. (Currently Amended) The machine-readable medium of claim 35, further comprising decrypting saidthe content encrypted with saidthe content key using a content key recovered from the multiple nested list of decryption patterns.

37-45. (Cancelled)